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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/039,054

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Rajeev K. Nalawadi

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11/16/2006

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER

BAE, JI H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2115

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/039,054	Applicant(s) NALAWADI ET AL.	
	Examiner Ji H. Bae	Art Unit 2115	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see applicant's remarks, page 6, filed on 6 September 2006, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. 101 and rejection of claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 112 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. 101 and 112 has been withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments regarding rejection of claims based on prior art references have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 1 and 13, applicant has argued that Hobson fails to teach applicant's invention [applicant's remarks, pp. 6-8], and has cited various portions of applicant's specification to support these arguments. In response, the examiner respectfully points out that most of what applicant has cited has no bearing on what the claimed invention. Claim 1 recites:

generating a SMI request under ACPI control;

changing an operation mode of a processor to the SMM in response to the SMI request;

and

executing a resume ACPI control process to return the processor to ACPI control after the predefined SMM-compatible task is complete.

The cited portions of the specification which applicant has relied upon to rebut the examiner's rejection teach considerably more than what is claimed. In regards to claim 1, Hobson teaches at least as much as what has been recited, thereby anticipating applicant's claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hobson, U.S. Patent No. 6,122,748.

Regarding claim 1, Hobson teaches:

generating a SMI request under ACPI control [col. 5, lines 35-48];

changing an operation mode of a processor to the SMM in response to the SMI request;

and

executing a resume ACPI control process to return the processor to ACPI control after the process is complete [col. 5, lines 54-62].

Regarding claim 13, Hobson teaches the method of claim 1. Hobson also teaches the machine readable medium with instructions to implement the claimed method. Hobson also teaches that while in SMM, the processor executes tasks [col. 6, lines 60-64, configuring].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 3, 7-9, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hobson in view of Intel [Intel's SL Enhanced Intel486 Microprocessor Family, June 1993].

Regarding claim 2, Hobson teaches the method of claim 1, but does not teach saving processor state map information in a first area of a memory upon reception of the SMI request.

Intel teaches that upon generating an SMI, the processor saves the state of the system or SMRAM [page 2, "System-Level Power Management"].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Hobson and Intel by saving the processor state map information in a first area of memory, as taught by Intel. Hobson's disclosure teaches a processor transitioning between an ACPI control and an SMM, and teaches that exemplary processors include those from the Intel 80X86 family [col. 3, lines 40-42]. Since the disclosure of Intel is directed towards the same family of processors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the transitioning between ACPI and SMM would have been implemented in the manner taught by Intel.

Regarding claim 3, Hobson teaches setting SMI enable in a SMI generation register [col. 4, lines 14-18].

Regarding claims 7-9, Hobson and Intel teaches the method of claims 1-3. Hobson also teaches that while in SMM, the processor executes tasks [col. 6, lines 60-64, configuring]. Additionally, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to delegate tasks to various processors to achieve faster execution.

Regarding claims 14 and 15, Hobson and Intel teaches the method of claims 2 and 3. Hobson and Intel also teaches the machine readable medium with instructions to implement the claimed method.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

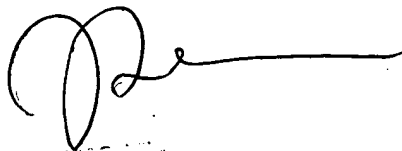
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ji H. Bae whose telephone number is 571-272-7181. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10 am to 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2115

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ji H. Bae
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2115
ji.bae@uspto.gov
571-272-7181



Stamp: JI H. BAE
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2115
571-272-7181